

#### 9th DOE Meeting January 29 2002

# Goals, Design & Implementation of a Versatile Microarray Database

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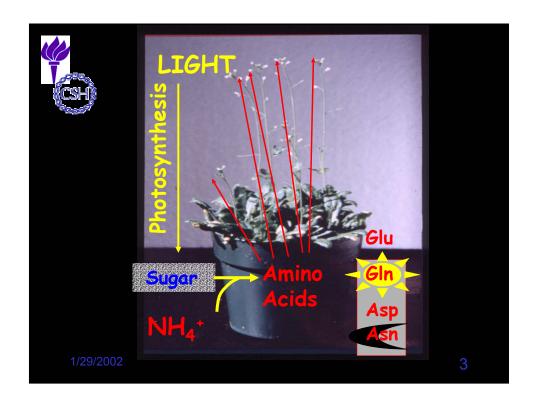
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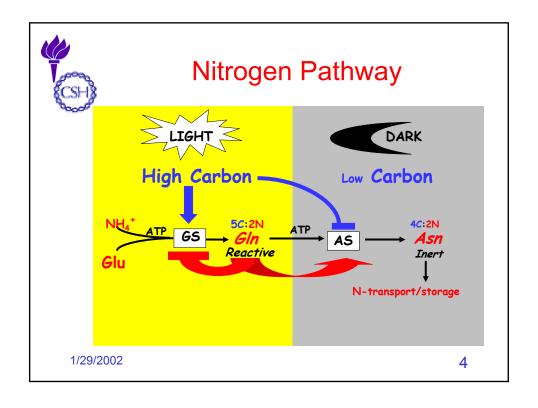


# Various Projects at NYU Based on Microarrays

- Nitrogen Pathway analysis in Arabidopsis
  - (in cooperation with NYU Biology Dept., USC & Univ. of Illinois)
- · Hallucinogen effects on brain functions
  - (in collaboration with Mount Sinai School of Medicine)
- Cancer related cell signaling using different cell lines
- Genome Mapping and Probe Placement:
  - Poster #112

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### Goals

- Facilitate collaborative research
  - Data sharing
  - Rich graphical and web interface
- Controlled data visibility/access
  - Group-based read/write access
- General access to published data
  - Simple data retrieval
- Provision of analysis and clustering algorithms
  - Standard methods
  - New methods / enhancements

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# NYU Microarray Database (NYUMAD).

- The underlying DB schema design
  - follows the specifications put forth by the Microarray Gene Expression Database group (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/microarray/MGED),
  - especially when it comes to the XML-based MAML (Microarray Mark-up Language) exchange format.

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# **NYUMAD** Functionality

- Stores array data, experimental conditions and protocols
- · Data is served to "clients" via the world wide web (WWW).
  - Clients can be the NYUMAD Java applet/application
  - custom-built user programs,
  - XML files retrieved using a simple HTTP text based request format.
- The NYUMAD applet presents data in a logical manner and allows easy navigation through the data.
  - Allows straight-forward updating of existing data and the insertion of new data.
  - Retrieval of data in text or XML format

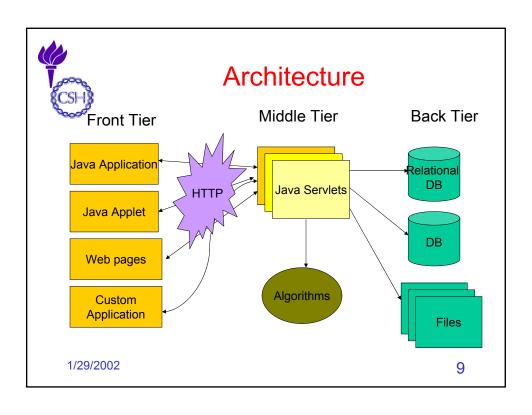
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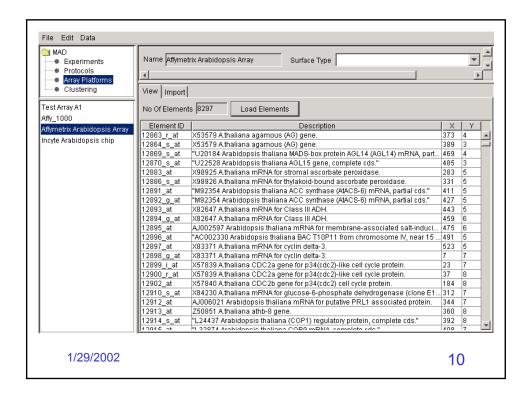


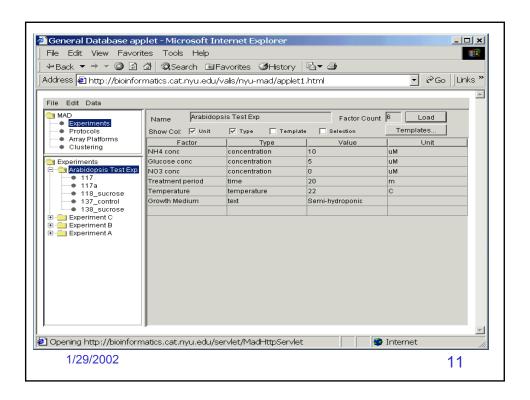
#### **Architecture**

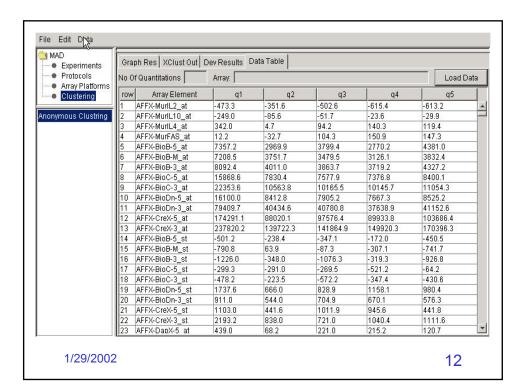
- The NYUMAD has a three-tier architecture:
- Front tier
  - NYUMAD java applet/application
  - User's custom-built programs
  - HTML forms.
- Middle tier
  - Java servlets handle requests and submissions from the front tier
  - Invisible to the end user.
  - Algorithms and analytics (C++, C, other languages)
- Back tier
  - Relational database management systems (RDBMS, currently PostgreSQL running on a 6 nodes Linux cluster).
  - File management system used to store large files such as image files.

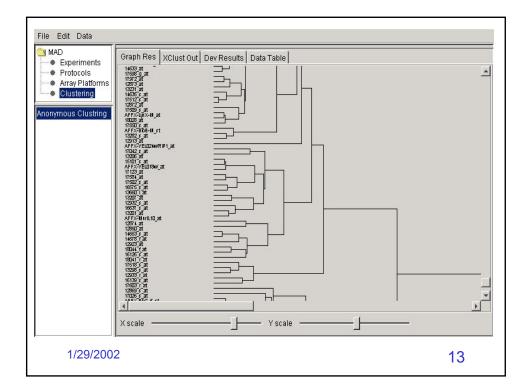
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## Conclusion

- Functionality ranges from the storage of the data to front-end capabilities for the presentation and maintenance of the data.
- The database is a unified platform to understand the microarray based gene expression data.
  - The data can be output to a wide class of clustering algorithms, based on various "similarity measures" and various approaches to grouping
  - We have developed a new statistically-robust similarity measure based on James-Stein Shrinkage estimators and provided a Bayesian explanation for its superior performance
  - Additional research is focused on incorporating statistical tests for validation and measuring the significance (e.g., jackknife and bootstrap tests).

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# **Further Information**

#### **NYU Bioinformatics**

http://bioinformatics.cat.nyu.edu

## Applet prototype

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Requires Java Runtime Environment 1.3 Has guest login – no password required Email: mcr221@nyu.edu

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